

## Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00  
ACDA-07 /059 W

-----241022Z 073086 /10

P 240945W MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 074  
INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11152: N/A  
TAGS: MASS, NI  
SUBJECT: BOEING CORPORATION: HELICOPTERS TO NIGERIAN AIR FORCE

STATE FOR MUNITIONS CONTROL

1. JAMES A. FELITON, BOEING INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR  
HELICOPTERS OPERATING OUT OF ROME, DISCUSED WITH DATT AND  
CHARGE MARCH 22 BOEING'S DESIRE TO SELL 7 CHINOOK HELICOPTERS  
TO NIGERIAN AIR FORCE (NAF). MATTER HEV BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION  
FOR SOME TIME AND APPEARS TO BE NEARING ACTIVE STAGE, WITH FMG  
PLANNING TO SEND 5-7 MAN TEAM TO US THE WEEK OF APRIL 18 TO  
VISIT BOEING PLANT, LOOK OVER THE PLANES AND DISCUSS DETAILS  
OF THE PURCHASE. EMBASSY REQUASTS ADVISORY OPINION ON THE  
SALE.

2; FELITON SAYS PLAC WGULD BE TO DELIVER 3 CHINOOKS LATE  
1978 ACD THE REST IN 1979. EACH PLANE COSTS ABOUT \$5 MILLION  
PLUS \$600,000 IN SPECIAL EQUIPMENT, IACD ABOUL 25 PERCENT MORE IN  
SAPRE PARTS. THE NIGERIANS ARE INTERESTED IN A TRAINING  
ARRANGEMENT OF 6 MONTHS OR MORE THAT WOULD RUN ABOUT  
\$1 MILLION. PLAN WGULD BE TO BUY THE CHINOOKS VIA FMS  
AND THESPARE PARTS AND TRAINING DIRECT FROM BOEING.  
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3. FELITON STATES AIRCRAFT ARE INTENDED FOR TRANSPORT  
OF TROOPS, C-130 SPARE PARTS, IAND OTHER MILITARY ITEMS  
WITHIN NIGERIA. PLANES DO NOT HAVE ATTAKC CAPABILITY.  
FELITON HOPES THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM IN SECURING  
APPROVAL FOR THE SALE.

4. COMMENT. WE SEE NO PROBLEM FROM MISSION POINT OF VIEW. THE AIRCRAFT WOULD BE USED DOMESTICALLY. WHILE THEY HAVE NO ANTI-INSURGENCY ATTACKICAPABILITY, TRACSPORT OF TROOPS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT COULD SERVE INTERESTS OF INTERNAL SECURITY, BUT WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO THIS. THE CHINOOK SALE WULD REPRESENT FIRST SUBSTANTIAL PURCHASE OF US MILITARY EQUIPMENT BY FMG SINCE THE CIVIL WAR AND MIGHT INDICATE DIMINISHED FMG SUSPICION OF US RELIABILITY AS A SUPPLIER.IWE WOULD NOT WANT TO READ TOO MUCH INTO THIS,IAS CHINOOKS ARE NOT COMBAT AIRCRAFT, BUT WE BELIEVE IT MAY REFLECT A MORE RELAZED ATTITUDE ON PART OF FMG.

5. IF DEPARTMENT BELIEVES,IIN LIGHT CURRENT POLICY REVIEW OF FOREIGN MILITARY SALES, THAT THIS CHINOOK SALE IS LIKELY TO BE DISAPPROVED FOR SOME REASON, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE WARNING, AS IT WGULD BE PREFERABLE TO COOL NIGERIAN INTEREST HERE RATHER THAC ALLOWITHEIR TEAM TO MAKE THE TRIP TO THE US, ONLY TO BE REBUFFED.  
CROSBY

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** HELICOPTERS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** MASS, NI, BOEING  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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